

## REMARKS

The Applicants thank the Examiner for the indication that claims 4-53, and 55 would be allowable if rewritten in independent format, and that claim 56 would be allowable if claim 54 was made to depend from claim 4. Applicants have amended claim 4 to incorporate the limitations of claim 1, and have amended claim 54 to depend from claim 4. All remaining claims ultimately depend from claim 4, and are therefore allowable.

The Applicants submit that the application is in good and proper form for allowance and respectfully request the Examiner to pass this application to issue. If, in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney, at 312-913-3305.

Respectfully submitted,

McDONNELL BOEHNEN  
HULBERT & BERGHOFF LLP

Date: March 24, 2005

By:

  
Robert J. Irvine III  
Registration No. 41,865